

DODEA schools not needed

Study finds that Hawaii’s schools are comparable to other districts studied

KATHLEEN FACON
Chief, Educational Partnerships Branch,
Department of Defense Education Activity

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense Education Activity, or DODEA, and the DOD were commissioned to study and validate the concerns that the Hawaii Department of Education’s public schools aren’t providing military-connected students with an adequate and appropriate set of educational services.

The study concluded that Hawaii is generally comparable to the other school districts studied as measured by student performance, educational programs and services.

Hawaii and the comparable districts are home to some excellent, as well as challenged public schools. The data doesn’t support the perception that Hawaii is not providing an appropriate education for school-age dependents who reside on military installations in Hawaii.

Therefore, there is no basis to support the establishment of DODEA schools on military installations in Hawaii.

The secretary of defense considers the following when making determinations of appropriate education programs for eligible dependents residing on military installations: Military dependents are eligible for free public education in the local area and the local educational agency is able to provide an appropriate educational program.

According to the report, HIDOE has set forth a comprehensive reform agenda for improving student outcomes statewide. The agenda demonstrates a clear path to achieving these goals by decreasing achievement gaps in reading/language arts and mathematics; increasing high school graduation rates; and raising college enrollment.

“The (DOD) is strongly committed to ensuring that the children of military families receive an excellent education that prepares them for successful careers and to be active contributors to their communities and the nation,” said Marilee Fitzgerald, director, DODEA. “Our partnerships with public schools serving military-connected families are an important part of that commitment.”

Over the summer, DODEA has joined forces with the HIDOE to implement initiatives and provide support that will have an immediate and direct effect on the quality of education for many students, including military-connected students, in Hawaii’s public schools.

Through its grant authority, DODEA is able to provide resources to academic programs and student support programs in public schools having a high concentration of military-connected students.

DODEA awarded \$1.9 million to expand virtual learning opportunities and more than \$1.3 million to upgrade resources in the Advance Via Individual Determination, or AVID, program at Radford High School in Honolulu.

About \$480,000 will support the implementation of a blended learning program, which allows teachers to individualize and differentiate instruction for students via technology while also providing face-to-face direct instruction.

A blended learning pilot program is scheduled for the 2012-2013 school year at Hale Kula Elementary School at Schofield Barracks.

It also allows for cooperative learning opportunities in classrooms. Through the National Math Science Initiative, DODEA has also provided funding of \$1.1 million for Leilehua and Radford high schools to become a part of the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program.

DODEA will provide oversight, support

See **SCHOOLS, A-5**



Spc. Kayla Thomas | 25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

Two 25 ID Soldiers ascend a hill during 25th ID’s PRP on East Range, Schofield Barracks. The course helps to prepare Soldiers for the demanding challenges they will face at Ranger School in Fort Benning, Ga.

25th ID ensures Ranger School success

STAFF SGT. WILLIAM SALLETTE
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Spc. Miles Logan stands amid a crowd of his peers knowing it was his hard work and dedication that has brought him closer to achieving his lifelong dream: earning the Army Ranger tab.

“I have wanted this since I was a little kid,” said Logan, indirect fire infantryman, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division. “When we were asked what we wanted to be when we grew up, some said super models and firemen. All I ever wanted to be was an Army Ranger.”

Earning the Army Ranger tab doesn’t happen overnight. The process can take months of dedication to improve one’s physical fitness and an intense focus to prepare for the many leadership tasks that are required to complete the course.

According to the Ranger Training Brigade’s website, 60 percent of all Ranger School failures occur in the first three days of the course, also known as the Ranger Assessment Phase. This phase entails land navigation, the Army physical fitness test, a road march and combat water

survival assessment.

Commonly, failure is due to a lack of preparation and motivation, which is why 25th ID, along with many other commands across the Army, has instituted a Pre-Ranger Program, or PRP, here.

Mimicking the first week of Ranger School, PRP training prepares Soldiers for the rigorous training events they will encounter that first week and throughout the Ranger School at Fort Benning, Ga., said Sgt. 1st Class Bruce Bryant, non-commissioned officer in charge, East Range Training Complex, here.

“Not everyone that attends the course will get the opportunity to go to Ranger School,” Bryant said. “The ones that meet our set standards for the course will actually go on to Ranger School.”

The PRP is set up into two phases. During phase one, Soldiers complete a 12-mile road march, land navigation course and a swim test. Soldiers must also complete the Ranger physical fitness test: a five-mile run in at least 40 minutes, 49 push-ups and 59 sit-ups in two minutes and six chin-ups with no lower body movement.

Soldiers also learn how to write warning or-

ders, operation orders, build terrain models and conduct battle drills.

In the second phase of the course, the Soldiers conduct a field training exercise and use everything they have learned in phase one to show that they are ready to move on to Ranger School.

With a mission daily and no terrain off-limits, this five-day course can be stressful and exhausting, but it is in place to set the Soldiers up for success.

“This is probably the best (PRP) in the Army,” Logan said. “The terrain here is much more difficult than other places and I am told that it does compare pretty closely to the mountain training phase at Fort Benning.”

The PRP is conducted every month with each cycle consisting of 15-30 Soldiers. After completing the course, Soldiers who have met the standards will attend Ranger School at Fort Benning.

“The course not only prepared me for the physical demands, but for the classroom portion of Ranger School, as well,” said 1st Lt. Sean Meberg, platoon leader, 66th Engineering Company, 2nd BCT.

Natural Resources Team wins top Army award

**U.S. ARMY GARRISON-HAWAII
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Spirit, hard work and scaling mountains paid off as U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s Natural Resources Team garnered one of the Army’s most prestigious awards, Jan. 27.

The Army publicly announced USAG-HI as the winner of the Secretary of the Army’s 2011 “Natural Resources Conservation Team Award” for the accomplishments of its Oahu Natural Resources Program/Team, or NRT, in a release on Army.mil.

This award is part of the annual Secretary of the Army Environmental Awards Program, which recognizes and rewards excellence for the development, management and transferability of environmental programs that increase environmental quality, enhance the mission and help make the Army sustainable.

“Recognition by the secretary of the Army as having one of the finest natural resource programs in the Army is a public testament to the commitment, professionalism and dedication of the Natural Resource staff of USAG-HI,” said Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI. “Their work allows the Army to continue to train here and prepare for any contingency our nation requires of its Soldiers.

“This program, over many years, has not only stabilized threatened and endangered species here on Oahu, but it serves as the model across the Army and federal government on how to

Natural Resources

To view photos, videos and learn more about Army natural resource efforts in Hawaii, visit:

- <http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/sustainability>

collaborate with state, federal and private organizations to manage fragile populations,” Mulbury added.

The Oahu NRT is responsible for balancing the military mission with managing more than 60 federally listed species on more than 50,000 acres of land, with an annual budget of approximately \$6 million.

The team supports six Army training ranges on Oahu through strict management of natural resources, enabling approximately 20,000 service members from the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, National Guard and Reserves, as well as local law enforcement, to successfully conduct missions critical to training.

Fifty-one native plants, seven kahuli tree snails, the Oahu elepaio bird, the Hawaiian hoary bat, two picture wing flies, and one damselfly keep the Oahu NRT’s tight-knit staff on the go, perfecting management techniques as needed, in order to ensure the survival of these unique Oahu species.

What began as a small staff of four in 1995 has now grown to more than 50 personnel, comprised of support staff, a fence crew, three re-



Courtesy of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii Public Affairs

Dan Foreman, natural resource management specialist, Oahu NRT, USAG-HI, monitors the health of an endangered akoko plant, in a remote native forest of the Waianae Mountains.

source management crews, and a nursery/seed-bank management crew.

Ninety percent of the staff is in the field daily, working with rare species in remote areas

See **NRT, A-5**

Yama Sakura | A-3

USARPC’s annual bilateral exercise with JGSDF is underway in Japan.

Javelins | A-4

Training provides sustainability for “Warrior Brigade.”

Pro Bowl | B-1

Pro Bowl week shines a spotlight on Hawaii’s service members.



NFL gives back | B-3

Players meet with wounded warriors and donate Play 60 equipment to military keiki.

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army or organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 656-3156, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for articles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publications. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is an authorized newspaper and is published in the interest of the U.S. Army community in Hawaii.

All editorial content of the Hawaii Army Weekly is the responsibility of the U.S. Army, Hawaii Public Affairs Office, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 96857. Contents of the Hawaii Army Weekly are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is printed by The Honolulu Star-Advertiser, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Government, under exclusive written agreement with the U.S. Army, Hawaii.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is published weekly using the offset method of reproduction and has a printed circulation of 15,300.

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www.hawaiiarmyweekly.com
Nonelivery or distribution
656-3155 or 656-3156

28 days since last fatal accident

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Regulation 385-10, which is inclusive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 2/2/12.

USATDS offers legal advice to Soldiers

CAPT. PATRICK BURKE AND CAPT. GARY STANLEY
Hawaii Field Office, U.S. Army Trial Defense Service

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The U.S. Army Trial Defense Service, or USATDS, is set up to provide free legal advice and representation to Soldiers facing court-martial, nonjudicial punishment, Article 15, administrative separation and other adverse actions.

Similar to a civilian public defender's office, USATDS is staffed by Army judge advocates, or JAs, who are licensed as attorneys, as well as enlisted paralegal specialists. USATDS is an independent stovepipe organization that does not fall under the chains of command of the Soldiers the JAs represents. This separation ensures candid legal advice and zealous representation is given with only the client's best interest in mind.

Because of necessary Department of Defense budget cuts and planned reduction of forces, commands have placed a greater emphasis on pursuing administrative separations.

These separations are not considered punishment, but are instead a tool by which the command basically determines whether Soldiers should or shouldn't be retained in the Army for the duration of their contract and, if separated, what characterization of service they receive.

Enlisted separations are governed by Army Regulation 635-200, "Enlisted Separations (Discharges)." Soldiers have rights when facing a separation action and should seek legal advice from USATDS. Explanations of some of those rights follow:

Q: What kind of administrative separation am I entitled to?

A: As an enlisted Soldier, you are entitled to have your case heard by a separation board if you have more than six years of service, or are being considered for an other than honorable conditions discharge. The board is typically made up of two officers and a senior-enlisted Soldier.

The unit's prosecuting attorney will present evidence on behalf of the command, and a Trial Defense Service, or TDS, attorney will represent you free of charge. You also can pay out of pocket for representation by a civilian defense attorney. If the board recommends separation, it goes to the commanding general for approval.

Q: I have less than six years in service and am being recommended for a general, under honorable condition separation. What can I do?

A: As you aren't entitled to having your case heard by an administrative separation board, your only real recourse is to submit something in writing to your command. Unlike at a board, the assisting you in preparing a rebuttal if you desire. In this letter, you can explain any mitigating circumstances and respectfully request appropriate recourse. This will aid the command in making the final determination in your case.

Q: If I am being recommended for a general, under honorable condition separation, what about my Post 9/11 GI Bill?

A: You're entitled to this educational benefit only if you received an honorable discharge. A case-by-case determination is made when you are discharged with a general, under honorable conditions discharge. Application is made on U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs form 22-1990, "Application for VA Education Benefits." Call the Schofield Barracks Education Center at 655-0800/0805.

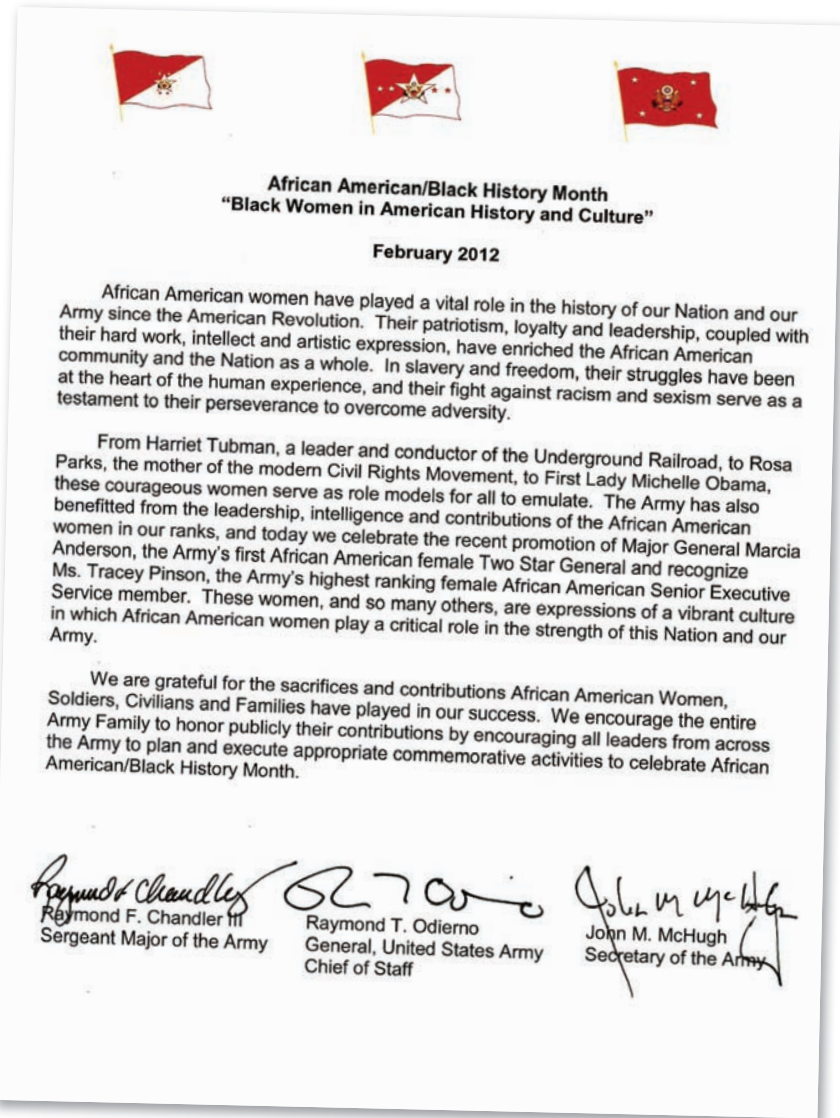
Q: I have heard that after six months I can apply to the Army Discharge Review Board, or ADRB, and get my chapter upgraded. Is this true?

A: Yes. Former members of active duty, the Reserves and Army National Guard may submit DOD Form 293, "Application for the Review of Discharge From the Armed Forces of the United States," to the ADRB. Visit <http://arba.army.pentagon.mil>.

Administrative Separations

When facing an administrative separation or any other adverse action, Soldiers should immediately seek the advice of the USATDS staff. The TDS Hawaii Field Office is located in Building 2027, Aleshire Blvd., Schofield Barracks, and can be reached at 655-6000.

DA honors African-Americans



BRONCO BUCKS



Courtesy Photo

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Hui O Na Wahine, an all-ranks Army spouses club, presents a \$15,000 grant to the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, "Broncos," 25th Infantry Division Memorial Association, here, recently. This grant was awarded for construction of a memorial to be built, here, in honor of fallen Soldiers from the 3rd BCT.

Pictured from left to right are Un Hui Kim, senior advisor, 3rd BCT; Karen Shaw, chair, Bronco Memorial Association; Jennifer Kelling, president, Hui O Na Wahine; Sherri Becker, honorary advisor, Hui O Na Wahine; and Mary Sue Champoux, honorary president, Hui O Na Wahine

Read more about the Bronco Memorial Association by visiting www.broncomemorial.com.

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

A new year makes for a new beginning, a clean slate

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) JIM MITCHEM
2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment,
2nd Brigade Combat Team,
25th Infantry Division

As the excitement of the New Year begins to wear off, especially if our New Year's resolutions did not survive the first 31 days, look forward knowing that God is in control.

He has you in the palm of his hand, and he has a plan for you. But, he chose to give you the free will to live your life as you wish, which is why we mess it up all the time. God is going before us to prepare the better path, we have to make that decision to follow him in that direction.

Our Army is at a crossroads; with the end of the Iraq campaign and the reduction of forces in Afghanistan we can see many changes already beginning to take place.

Moving forward with these changes, many of us will be forced to make some major decisions that will affect our careers.

For many of you, this time of uncer-

tainty in the future can bring with it a fear of this unknown future. But instead of looking at this future as a dark foreboding entity of not knowing, look at it as the clean, perfect slate. Make it into the future you desire, and trust in God to go before you to prepare the way.

Winston Churchill described the future this way: "The empires of the future are the empires of the mind."

Set a goal for yourself. Make it something you have always wanted and make that goal a reality in your mind. Is there a chance that you won't succeed? Sure, but there is always the chance that you will fail.

As Churchill so aptly pointed out, we need to strive for the dreams of the future, we need to dream big and we need to drive on so that our empires will become a reality.

So look to your past and learn from it. Know that things will happen this year, but your reaction to these things is your testimony — a testimony to your faith in God and a testimony that others will see and wonder what it is that you have that makes you so strong in life's trials.

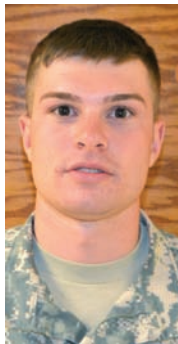
This will be when you can proclaim the strength of Christ within you and when you can lay a claim to the empire of your future.

Voices of O'hana

February is Black History Month.

"Who do you find to be the most inspirational African-American and why?"

Photos by 84th Engineer Battalion Public Affairs, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command



"Oprah Winfrey, because she encourages others to improve themselves and the lives of others."

Sgt. Jordan Bierce
HHC, 84th Eng. Bn.,
130th Eng. Bde.,
8th TSC



"Morgan Freeman. He offers his unique opinions on social and political issues."

Pfc. Willie Jackson
HHC, 84th Eng. Bn.,
130th Eng. Bde.,
8th TSC



"Will Smith. He has proven to be a good male role model to all young inner city black youths who come from a rough background."

Spc. Allen Jemison
HHC, 84th Eng. Bn.,
130th Eng. Bde.,
8th TSC



"Colin Powell. He served as the only African-American to ever be on the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

2nd Lt. Scott Kantner
HHC, 84th Eng. Bn.,
130th Eng. Bde.,
8th TSC



"The leader that Congress called 'the first lady of civil rights' and 'the mother of the freedom movement,' Rosa Parks."

Capt. Julia Miller
HHC, 84th Eng. Bn.,
130th Eng. Bde.,
8th TSC



Spc. Brandy Mort | 133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Yama Sakura 61 initiates with an opening ceremony at Camp Itami, Japan, Jan. 30.

Yama Sakura exercise begins

STAFF SGT. FREDERICK VARNEY

133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

CAMP ITAMI, Japan — Yama Sakura 61, an annual bilateral exercise with the Japan Ground Self Defense Force and U.S. Army-Pacific, officially began, here, Jan. 30.

Yama Sakura is a simulation-driven, joint bilateral command post exercise designed to enhance U.S. and Japan combat readiness and interoperability while strengthening bilateral relationships.

During the exercise, the U.S. military and JGSDF exchange ideas, tactics, techniques and military experiences in order to ensure the defense of Japan and support security interests in the region.

Each year the exercise location rotates between the five regional armies of the JGSDF. The Middle army, based here, is hosting this year’s Yama Sakura 61.

Objectives of YS61 include training U.S. ground forces for deployment to Japan in the event of contingencies, as well as exercising joint capabilities in the defense of Japan.

Since 1982, Yama Sakura has focused on the development and refinement of the JGSDF and USARPAC’s efforts in the areas of bilateral planning, coordination and interoperability through training.

During the opening ceremony, Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski, commander, USARPAC, and Lt. Gen. Ryuichiro Arakawa, commander, Middle army, JGSDF, both stressed the importance of the annual bilateral exercise.

“Yama Sakura is a premier exercise for USARPAC,” Wiercinski said. “Every year we improve our strong bilateral partnerships, and this year is no exception.”

Arakawa said YS61 is the largest exercise where the JGSDF and USARPAC can train their mutual coordination through bilateral com-



Staff Sgt. Frederick Varney | 133rd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Lt. Gen. Francis Wiercinski (left), commander, USARPAC, and Lt. Gen. Ryuichiro Arakawa, commander, Middle army, JGSDF, shake hands during the bilateral press conference for YS61, Jan. 30, at Camp Itami, Japan.

mand and staff activities.

“Yama Sakura is the first bilateral Army Command Post Exercise after the great east Japan earthquake,” Arakawa said. “We closely cooperated with the U.S. military through such command post activities during the disaster relief operation.”

For the first time in the history of Yama Sakura, members from the Australian Defense Force are observing the command post exercise.

More than 800 U.S. military personnel and more than 3,500 JGSDF personnel are participating.



Staff Sgt. David Morris (left), section leader, Troop B, 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, locates a target through the Command Launch Unit on a Javelin training unit, while Pvt. Dane Francis, cavalry scout, Troop B, 2nd Sqdn., 14th Cav. Regt., 2nd BCT, views the sight picture on a computer screen following the Javelin training course at Schofield Barracks, Jan. 23.

2nd BCT gets Javelin upgrades

Story and Photo by
SGT. ROBERT M. ENGLAND
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs,
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — On modern battlefields where the enemy rejects conventional warfare for irregular tactics, the U.S. Army continues to adapt with updated weapons and advanced training.

Among the evolving capabilities stands the Javelin, a man-portable, anti-tank, shoulder-fired missile.

As the Army upgrades its weapons and updates its doctrine, it must equip and train its Soldiers to maintain combat effectiveness in a complex ambiguous environment.

About 40 Soldiers from the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, graduated from the 80-hour Javelin course, here, Jan. 23. The two-part training regimen consisted of gunnery procedures and a “train the trainer” portion that will allow 2nd BCT subordinate units to train more Soldiers within their ranks.

Before the training, Maj. Jack Keen, force integration officer and brigade engineer, 2nd BCT, said the brigade exchanged 129 older model Javelins, labeled “Block 0,” for 121 units containing the updated system, “Block 1,” in January.

Keen said this should enable almost every infantry, cavalry and engineer unit in the brigade to equip its Soldiers at the squad level.

Wes Fowler, lead trainer, System Studies and Simulation, Inc., Huntsville, Ala., said the improvements to the optics of the outdated “Block 0” Javelins necessitated the exchange.

“The new system has a more powerful night vision sight,” Fowler said. “The polarity can also be changed giving the operator more options on how he or she views the target through the

thermal sight. There is also a video port added to the command launch unit so that a gunner looking downrange can attach an external monitor and show his commander or whomever what he is looking at.”

Staff Sgt. David Morris, section leader, Troop B, 2nd Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd BCT, and a student in the course, said the Javelin’s new system also helps the operator acquire and engage targets.

“The new system has some upgraded features that help the operator positively identify targets easier,” Morris said. “It’s more user-friendly in that it’s going to tell you exactly what you need to do, so if you have a base knowledge, it can almost step you through the firing process.”

Fowler said the course also instructed the students how to impart the contents of the curriculum to their fellow Soldiers upon returning to their respective units.

“When we put them through this class, they’re not only a gunner but also a trainer, so they can conduct their own classes and teach new gunners,” Fowler said. “This class was designed to be the sustainment for these guys.”

Much of the training consisted of classroom instruction using training aids, such as Javelin training units and computer simulations. This allowed Soldiers to experience troubleshooting, targeting and firing the Javelin without the immense \$70,000 price tag that comes along with the live ammunition.

“With the change in focus from Iraq to Afghanistan, this will give the opportunity for the Soldiers in mountainous terrain to effectively utilize these Javelins,” Keen said. “With the increase in observation power and the fact that they are actually being used in combat, the Soldiers take the training to heart.”



Courtesy of Roy Kikuta

Kim Welch (red shirt), environmental outreach specialist, Oahu Army NRT, USAG-HI, leads volunteers on a tour of the upper elevation rare plant nursery in the Waianae mountains.

NRT: Staff goes above and beyond

CONTINUED FROM A-1

of the island across the Waianae and Koolau mountain ranges.

Major 2010 and 2011 team accomplishments include the collection of 5,800 endangered plants for genetic storage, the outplanting and reintroduction of 8,500 endangered plants to their native habitat and the fencing of more than 1,200 acres of endangered species habitat to stop the destruction of wild goats and pigs.

“This award is a testament to the top notch effort and professionalism of the members of this

team,” said Michelle Mansker, NRT chief, Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, USAG-HI. “It is their collective effort that makes this team the best in the Army.”

As a winner of this Secretary of the Army Environmental Award, the Oahu NRT will go on to represent the Army and compete in the Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards competition this spring, which recognizes individuals, teams and installations for their outstanding achievements to conserve and sustain the natural and cultural resources entrusted to the Department of Defense.

Schools: DODEA to provide support

CONTINUED FROM A-1

and mentorship through the life cycle of each grant to ensure success.

“Without a doubt Hawaii and military-connected students will be the benefactors from DODEA’s collaboration and care for our schools in Hawaii,” said Patricia Park, superintendent, Complex Area, Central District.

DODEA

For more information call DODEA at (703)588-3191. To view “The performance of Hawaii’s Military Impacted Public Schools: A Comparative Perspective,” visit:

- www.dodea.edu/mk12p/docs/hawaii_study_2011.pdf

News Briefs

Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

3rd BCT Ceremony — The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, will host a torch passing ceremony and wellness expo to kick off its “Walk to Afghanistan and Back,” 5 p.m., Feb. 3, Hangar 114, Wheeler Army Airfield.

Ongoing

Tax Center — The Hawaii

Army Tax Center at Schofield Barracks is open for appointments, 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday.

The Hawaii Army Tax Center at Fort Shafter is booking appointments, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Call 655-1040 for either location.

Employee Town Hall — Join Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, to learn the latest details about garrison's budget and manpower changes. All interested employees and Soldiers may attend, particularly impacted employees.

Times and locations follow:

- 1:30-2:30 p.m., Feb. 9, Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks. A hearing impaired interpreter will be present.

- 10:30-11:30 a.m., Feb. 10, Assembly Hall, 9th Mission Support Command, Fort Shafter Flats.

Traffic Lights — All traffic lights at the intersections on Schofield Barracks will be flashing red, 8 p.m.-6 a.m., daily. All motorists shall stop at the intersection with the flashing red, yield to cars with the right of away and then proceed into the intersection with caution. Call 655-1333.

94th AAMDC Soldier chosen to escort Dr. Jill Biden

SGT. LOUIS LAMAR
94th Army Air and Missile Defense
Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — Instead of watching the State of the Union Address on television like everyone else, Sgt. Ashleigh Berg, executive administrative assistant to the commanding general of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, watched it live.

Berg was chosen to escort Dr. Jill Biden, one of America’s most influential women, there, Jan. 24

“I first met Dr. Biden in July 2010 while deployed to Camp Victory, Iraq,” Berg said. “I was one of the 11 female Soldiers chosen to eat lunch with her on her visit there.”

Berg was also one of the few people who were chosen to sit in the first lady’s box during the State of the Union



Sgt. Ashleigh Berg
Executive administrative assistant to the commanding general of the 94th AAMDC.

Address.

When asked how she was able to get a VIP invite, Berg said, “Dr. Biden remembered me from her trip to Camp Victory because we share the same passion for high heel shoes, and she promised to maintain contact with us

after her trip from Iraq.”

Berg was excited to attend and felt really comfortable since she had met Dr. Biden before.

“The speech was amazing,” Berg said. “It related to service members and the military pulling troops out of

Afghanistan. That part really touched me since my husband just deployed there.”

When asked if she was nervous Berg said, “Not really. I was just nervous about the flight there.

“My most memorable part of the night was reuniting with Dr. Biden since seeing her in Iraq and talking about our passion for shoe shopping,” she added.

“Another moment was when Dr. Biden asked how my husband was doing and told me to tell him happy birthday,” Berg said. “That really meant a lot to me because she actually remembered his birthday.

“During my trip, I also met President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama,” Berg concluded. “They presented me with a presidential coin from the White House.”

PACOM names Enlisted Person of the Quarter

**ASIA-PACIFIC CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**
News Release

HONOLULU — A Soldier assigned to the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, or APCSS, has been named the Headquarters, U.S. Pacific Command’s Enlisted Person of the Quarter, here, recently.

Staff Sgt. Jason Lasley, a communications security noncommissioned officer, is the first APCSS NCO ever chosen for this award.

Not only is he the primary handler for the entire APCSS’s message traffic, he also serves as a critical information conduit for tasking between PACOM and APCSS’s faculty.

Lasley has been at the APCSS for almost two years and has been in the Army for more than 16 years. One of eight junior enlisted Soldiers assigned to APCSS, he competed against five other NCOs representing the hundreds of eligible service members supporting the PACOM headquarters.



Lasley

As part of his recognition, Lasley will be awarded a Joint Service Achievement Medal.

“When Lasley arrived at APCSS he hit the ground running, not only correcting deficiencies noted during a USPACOM inspector general visit, but also improving upon them, turning them into two model programs,” said Diana Kammunkun, administrative officer, APCSS. “He is a talented, diverse NCO.”

Lasley was also selected to co-host a briefing for the first-ever Senior Enlisted Leaders Conference, a component of the 14th Annual Chiefs of Defense Conference, in October.

His efforts in polling and briefing 22 senior enlisted advisors from 17 countries were warmly received and highly praised by those senior leaders.

“Staff Sgt. Lasley is a hard working, dedicated NCO who has added value to the overall APCSS environment,” said Kaelene Foo, executive secretary to the director, APCSS.



HONORING OUR MILITARY

NFL shows its appreciation with Pro Bowl pageantry

STAFF SGT. CASHMERE JEFFERSON
U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs

HONOLULU — The NFL honored the armed forces with a "Salute to Service" program, Jan. 26-29, with weeklong events held on Oahu, leading up to Sunday's Pro Bowl game.

The NFL's "Salute to Service" program is part of the NFL's ongoing effort to recognize military service members.

The activities started Jan. 26 with practice sessions held at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, where Pro Bowl players met with service members, families and signed autographs after each practice.

"We were honored to be before you guys and for what you do on a day-to-day basis," said Montel Owens, running back, Jacksonville Jaguars. "We can never repay you."

Pro Bowl players also visited Schofield Barracks, Jan. 27, to meet Soldiers from the Warrior Transition Battalion. The NFL also donated Play 60 sports equipment to the Bennett Youth Center.

The NFL brought out its best players, cheerleaders and mascots for the leagues' last practice before the game at Aloha Stadium, Jan. 28, said Maria Franklin, event director, NFL. During Ohana Day, the NFL provided free transportation for military families to experience activities at Aloha Stadium.

"It's an absolute honor to be here before the military on behalf of the Cowboys and being able to perform and to give back to such a spe-



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Michael R. Holzworth | U.S. Air Force

Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Inf. Regt.'s, "The Old Guard," Army Drill Team from Washington, D.C., performs at Aloha Stadium during the 2012 NFL Pro Bowl halftime show, Sunday. More than 1,000 service members assigned to bases throughout Hawaii were honored during the halftime show.

Top photo — (From left to right) Maj. Gen. Roger Matthews, deputy commander, USARPAC; Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Thomas Conant, deputy commander, PACOM; and Air Force Maj. Gen. Darryll Wong, adjutant general, Hawaii National Guard, look on as the ceremonial coin toss during the 2012 NFL Pro Bowl Game at Aloha Stadium, Sunday. To view more photos from the Pro Bowl and Ohana Day, visit www.flickr.com/usaghawaii.

cial crowd," said Ally Traylor, cheerleader, Dallas Cowboys. "The men and women in uniform and their families have given so much for us, it's an honor to entertain them and try to give back to them."

The Pro Bowl game kicked off with Air Force Tech Sgt. Richard Vasquez singing the national

anthem followed by a coin toss.

Participating in the coin toss were Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Thomas Conant, deputy commander, U.S. Pacific Command; Maj. Gen. Roger Matthews, deputy

commander, U.S. Army-Pacific; and Air Force Maj. Gen. Darryll Wong, adjutant general, Hawaii National Guard.

"Any contest that features the best of the best is a great event, and I am just honored to be a part of something like this," Matthews said.

During the halftime show, the NFL showcased more than 1,000 service members assigned to bases throughout Hawaii on the field.

Making the pre-game and halftime shows possible were more than 200 Army Soldiers representing the 25th Infantry Division, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, Tripler Army Medical Center, 500th Military Intelligence Battalion and 196th Inf. Brigade.

The Soldiers logged more than 14 hours of rehearsal time over three days to make sure the shows went off without a hitch.

"This was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Sgt. 1st Class Roy Jackson, 3rd Bde. Combat Team, 25th ID.

The 3rd Inf. Regiment's, "The Old Guard," Army Drill Team from Washington, D.C., also performed during the halftime show.

"This is probably the biggest venue that we've done in a long time, and we were more excited than anything else to see all the fans and go out to put on a good show," said Spc. Andres Ryan, a senior soloist, Army Drill Team.

(Editor's Note: Vanessa Lynch, news editor, contributed to the content of this article.)

Families connect at Ohana Day

Story and Photo by
VANESSA LYNCH
News Editor

HONOLULU — Football fans, both young and old, converged on Aloha Stadium, here, Saturday, to watch some of their favorite players in action.

The National Football League hosted its annual Ohana Day, a free event that drew more than 2,500 military families into the stadium for a chance to watch players from the American Football Conference and the National Football Conference go through their final preparations for Sunday's Pro Bowl game.

The 2012 Pro Bowl teams practiced in front of their fans, with cheerleaders and mascots roaming the sidelines, and in some cases, taking the field with the players.

Ohana Day serves as a family day, allowing families to enter the stadium at no charge to meet their

favorite players, cheerleaders and mascots.

The NFL extended its gratitude for the sacrifices military service members and their families make and provided free busses to transport military families from all branches of service to and from the event.

"I got the opportunity to meet with some real heroes during my visit to Hawaii, the Purple Heart recipients at Schofield Barracks," said former NFL strong safety and nine-time Pro Bowler John Lynch.

The event included prize drawings, a chance for kids to go on the field for contests, as well as a sneak peek of the pre-game and halftime shows, where the military took center stage.

In between practices and press interviews, NFL mascots, cheerleaders and players took the time to meet their fans.



Soldiers with the 84th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command cheer on their favorite AFC and NFC players during Ohana Day at Aloha Stadium, Saturday.



Today
Right Arm Night — Revel in Mardi Gras madness starting 4 p.m., Feb. 3, at Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter. Celebrate Fat Tuesday early with an all-you-can-eat Louisiana-style buffet. Cost is \$5 in advance or \$8 at the door. Call 438-1974.

4 / Saturday
Ladies Golf Clinic — Leilehua Golf Course at Schofield Barracks holds a free ladies golf clinic, 1:30-3 p.m., every first Saturday of the month. Call 655-4653.

Saturday Night Spotlight — Listen to old school soul jams Saturday nights at the Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks. Doors open at 10 p.m. and are open to patrons 18 years of age and older. Call 655-4466/0660.

5 / Sunday
Super Bowl XLVI Party — Watch the game, 11 a.m., Feb. 5, at the Tropics Warrior Zone, Schofield Barracks, while enjoying food and beverage specials, football block pool, prizes and more. Entry is free. Call 655-5698. Tropics Warrior Zone is an 18 and older facility.

SuperBOWling Party — Watch the Super Bowl at 2 p.m., Feb. 5, Jan. 29, at the Fort Shafter Bowling Center. Bowl for \$1.50 per game. Shoe rental is \$1.75 for military personnel and \$2 for civilians. Call 438-6733.

6 / Monday
Parking Lot Closure — The Martinez Physical Fitness Center parking lot at Schofield Barracks will be resurfaced in two phases.
•Feb. 6-19, Phase 1, the Kolekole area (parking lot in front of Martinez entrance).
•Feb. 20-March 4, the tennis court area will be closed.
Parking will be limited. Call 655-8006.

Free Hula Classes — The Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG-HI, welcomes all Soldiers and families to participate in free hula classes. Beginner classes are 5-6 p.m.; advanced classes are 6-7 p.m. Call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com. Classes are held the following days and locations:
•Mondays, Kalakaua Community Center, Schofield Barracks.
•Tuesdays, AMR Community Center.

community Calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today
25th CAB Ceremony — The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, will host a torch passing ceremony and wellness expo to kick off its “Walk to Afghanistan and Back,” 5 p.m., Feb. 3, Hangar 114, Wheeler Army Airfield.

The 3rd BCT will finish its Walk to Afghanistan and Back by walking around a track to close out its last mile. The unit will then ignite the 25th CAB’s torch. The event includes a wellness expo with more than 30 community agencies.

Punahou Carnival — This keiki-friendly event is 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Feb. 3-4, at Punahou School, 1601 Punahou St., Honolulu. Activities include booths, rides and other carnival fun. Call 944-5751.

4 / Saturday
Fashion Show — A fashion show showcasing Polynesian wear and artifacts will be presented at 2 p.m.,

PLANTING COMMUNITY TIES



Brian Melanephy | 9th Mission Support Command Public Affairs

WAIANAE — Sgt. Emmanuel Pasion, a combat engineer with 411th Engineer Battalion, 9th Mission Support Command, plants a tree during a beautification project at the Waianae Boys and Girls Club, Jan. 25. The two-day cooperative effort included Army units, members of the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources and NFL Pro Bowl players who transformed 5,000 square feet of barren land into meeting areas by planting native ohia and plumeria trees and creating pathways. The NFL players were on the island for the Pro Bowl game, Sunday. See related Pro Bowl stories on B1 and B3.

7 / Tuesday
Magic Show — Experience an evening of mystery, fantasy and comedy with family-friendly magician Mark Allen Mauricio, Feb. 7, at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. Enjoy the all-you-can-eat buffet. Cost is \$20; keiki 10 and under are \$12. Blue Star Card holders get preferred seating. Call 655-4466 or 655-0660.

Knit and Hook — Bring your yarn, tools, and works-in-progress to the Fort Shafter Library, 5-6:30 p.m., Feb. 7, at the Fort Shafter Library. Call 438-9521.

8 / Wednesday
Pajama Storytime — Keiki of all ages are invited to a “Be My Valentine” bedtime story, 6:30 p.m., Feb. Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Wear your PJ’s if you’d like. Call 655-8002.

Afterschool — Elementary-age keiki ages 6 and older can enjoy a valentine program, 3-3:45 p.m., at the Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Registration isn’t required. Call 655-8002.

Make-n-Take Crafts — Create a unique Valentine’s craft for someone special, 3-5 p.m., Feb. 8 at the Fort

Shafter Library. All supplies will be provided. Call 438-9521.

\$1.99 Kids Meal — Every Wednesday night, keiki under 10 can enjoy healthy food at the Kolekole Bar and Grill, Schofield Barracks, or Mulligan’s Bar and Grill at Fort Shafter, for \$1.99.

9 / Thursday
Make-n-Take Valentine Crafts — Create a special valentine for a special person, noon-1:30 p.m., Feb. 9; and 1-2:30 p.m., Feb. 11 At the Arts and Crafts Center, Schofield Barracks. Supplies will be provided. Call 655-4202 to register.

Video Valentine — Teens and adults can make a free slideshow video valentine at the Schofield Barracks Arts & Crafts Center from 3:30-5 p.m. Bring 40 of your favorite photos and a short video on a flash drive or CD and easily create a personalized DVD for your special someone. Space is limited, so call 655-8002 to reserve a seat.

11 / Saturday
Read to the Dogs — Keiki who can read on their own can sign up for a 15-minute session to read to a dog, Dec. 10, Sgt. Yano Library, Schofield Barracks. Preregistration required. Call 655-8002.

tary member who died while on active duty or a survivor of a retiree.

Ongoing

Children’s Waiting Room — The Armed Services YMCA children’s waiting rooms offer on-site child care for healthy children, while their parents or siblings have medical appointments in any of the Schofield clinics or at Tripler Army Medical Center. No fee is charged for this service, but donations keep the programs running. Monday-Friday hours for the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic Children’s Waiting Room are 8 a.m.-noon, and 1-4 p.m; Tripler hours are 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Call 624-5645 for SBHC, or 833-1185 for TAMC.

RAP Meeting — Get involved in your community by attending your community’s Resident Advisory Panel. IPC residents can develop and strengthen their relationships with property management and fellow residents through the RAP. Contact your community manager for details and volunteer opportunities. Visit www.IslandPalmCommunities.com.

Troops to Teachers — This program directly supports military members who have chosen teaching as a career. Troops to Teachers provides direct resource support, including hiring, and it allows up to a \$10,000 bonus for teaching in high-needs schools. Call 586-4054, ext. 409.

12 / Sunday
Adventure Surfing — Are you comfortable in the water and ready to take your adventure to the next step? Let Outdoor Recreation assist you with your adventures on Feb. 12, from 6:30-11:30 a.m. for adventure surfing lessons. Cost is \$48. For more information or to register please call 655-0143.

14 / Tuesday
Valentine’s Dinner — Enjoy prix fixe menus at Hale Ikena at Fort Shafter or the Nehelani at Schofield Barracks. Reservations are required. Call 438-1974 for the Hale Ikena or 655-0660 for the Nehelani.

Ongoing

Free Auto Skills Class — Spouses of deployed Soldiers can learn how to check their vehicle’s oil, fluids and tire pressure. Schedule an appointment at the Fort Shafter Auto Skills Center by calling 438-9402.

No-Show Policy — Blue Star Card holders who register for an event and can’t attend need to cancel their reservation by noon the day before the event. Without cancellation, BSC holders will be considered no-shows. Email amanda.p.montgomery@us.army.mil.

Operation Kid Comfort — This local quilting group creates comfort quilts and pillows for children of deployed service members. Call 473-3398 or email PearlHarbor@asymcahi.org.

Parent Participation Preschool — This program is for children ages 3-4, and it helps preschool children make a smooth transition into the structure of kindergarten. Preschool days are 12-2 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, Wheeler Armed Services YMCA, WAAF. Cost is \$40 per month. Call 624-5645.

Making the Grade — Students can cash in on the Exchange’s “You Made the Grade” program that recognizes above-average academic achievement. Qualifying students will receive a coupon booklet that includes free admission to an Exchange Reel Time Theater as well as other coupons. Students must present a valid military ID and proof of an overall “B” or better average to their local Exchange.

Art on the Zoo Fence — This event is 9 a.m.-4 p.m., every Saturday-Sunday. Fence artists set up their original paintings and photography along the fence of the Honolulu Zoo on Monsarrat Avenue across from the bandstand at Kapiolani Park. Visit www.artonthezoo fence.com.

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu).

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services
•First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
•Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass
•Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
•Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF and FD
•Sunday services:
- 8:30 a.m. at AMR
- 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
- 11 a.m. at TAMC
•Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m. TAMC

Gospel Worship
•Sunday, noon. at MPC
•Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study
•Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
•Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
•Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)
•Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
•Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)
•Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship
•Sunday Services
- 9 a.m. at FD, MPC and TAMC chapels
- 9 a.m. at WAAF chapel, Lutheran/Episcopalian
- 10 a.m. at HMR
- 10:30 a.m. at AMR

Single Soldiers’ Bible Study
•Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. at SC; lunch is provided.

Worship Service
•Sunday, 6 p.m. at SC.

This Week at the
MOVIES
Sgt. Smith Theater
Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aaefes.com under realtime movie listing.



Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked
(G)
Fri., Feb. 3, 7 p.m.
Sun., Feb. 5, 2 p.m.

We Bought A
ZOO
A TRUE ZOO STORY

We Bought A Zoo
(PG)
Sat., Feb. 4, 4 p.m.

Real Steel
(PG-13)
Sat., Feb. 4, 7 p.m.

The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn, Part 1
Wed., Feb 8, 7 p.m.

Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows
(PG13)
Thurs., Feb. 9, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Calendar abbreviations			
8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command	AFTB: Army Family Team Building	EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program	IPC: Island Palm Communities
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division	AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation	FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation	SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
ACS: Army Community Service	BCT: Brigade Combat Team	FRG: family readiness group	TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan	BSB: Brigade Support Battalion	HMR: Helemano Military Reservation	USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
	Co.: Company		WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield
	CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services		

PRO BOWL DOUBLE-COVERAGE



Navy Lt. Theresa Donnelly | U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — John Lynch (left), former NFL player; and Calvin Johnson (right), Detroit Lions, sign a football for Pfc. James Hunt, Troop C, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, Jan. 27, here. Lynch and Johnson, on Oahu for the Pro Bowl game, visited wounded warriors assigned to the Warrior Transition Battalion, here.

Clubs to host ‘black dress’ luncheon

ALICIA PARTRIDGE
Hui O Na Wahine

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Hui O Na Wahine all-ranks Army spouses club is teaming up with its sister club, Hui O Wahine at Fort Shafter, for the joint “Basic Black Dress” luncheon Feb. 16, at the Nehelani, here.

The event opens at 10:30 a.m. for shopping with a buffet lunch 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$15 and includes lunch provided by the Nehelani.

A special table will be available for members who need to return to work on time.

More than 60 years ago, a young Army lieutenant’s wife named Alice Rice wrote a skit for an Army wives club fashion show, entitled “The Basic Black Dress.” This skit, still relevant today, describes the phases of Army-wife life by sharing and passing on the traditions about military life. Board members and general members from both clubs will act out the skit’s 15 different parts.

“I’m looking forward to seeing the skit again because it’s a special time to gather with other Army spouses and share the pride they have in their spouse’s service and their own commitment to the Army way of life, past and present,” said Jennifer Kelling, president, Hui O Na Wahine. “Mark your calendar, have a seat and take a playful look at what can be a hectic but wonderful life.”

Members are encouraged to wear their favorite black dress and Hui membership pins. Also, Hui vendors will be present for shopping.

For February, the donation basket is for the Tripler Army Medical Center’s Fisher House. Members are asked to bring in canned foods, paper goods and cleaning supplies and in return, they will receive free opportunity tickets.

‘Basic Black Dress’ Luncheon

Reservations must be placed by Feb. 10. Spouses must be 2011-2012 members of the Hui to attend the luncheon. Applications are available online; annual fees (\$12.50) will be accepted at the event.

To RSVP, email the following, respective points of contact:

All Hui O Na Wahine members
Members with last names beginning with A-L, email huireservationsal@gmail.com.
Members with last names beginning with M-Z, email huireservationsmz@gmail.com.

All Hui O Wahine members
Email reservations@huiowahine.com.

For more information email huion-awahine@gmail.com or visit:

- www.schofieldspouses.com.
- www.huispirit.com

NFL donates football gear to Youth Sports Program

Story and Photo by
SGT. GAELN LOWERS
8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — When Soldiers deploy, they must deal with the hardships of traveling great distances, often putting their lives on the line.

But one of the hardest obstacles to overcome is leaving their children behind.

This is when U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation steps in and offers programs to keep children engaged.

But times are getting tougher for the military and its families. Funds aren’t as readily available as they used to be. Outside support donations are required to keep programs like Youth Sports rejuvenated.

To keep kids active, the NFL and its Play 60 organization donated equipment to FMWR’s Youth Sports program. This donation was just the “shot in the arm” that the program needed to stay fresh, said Michael Amarosa, director, DFMWR.

“Our Youth Sports and the NFL Play 60 have been actively engaged for a number of years. (The NFL) had notified us that they wanted to provide a donation of equipment to our Youth Sports program,” Amarosa said. “It always enhances the program when we can get new equipment. Plus, the children get excited when they learn that the equipment is coming, literally, from the NFL.”

The donated equipment includes two “flag in a bag” kits for flag football and a youth football field fitness kit. The fitness kit includes flying discs, agility ladders and hurdles.

The NFL launched the Play 60 program in October 2007 to tackle childhood obesity. The National Youth Health and Fitness Campaign focuses on increasing the wellness of young fans by encouraging them to be active for at least 60 minutes a day.

Attending the donation ceremony were Detroit Lion’s wide receiver, Calvin Johnson, and former NFL strong safety and



Calvin Johnson, wide receiver for the Detroit Lions, hands Michael Amarosa, director, DFMWR, a football during the NFL Play 60 donation of equipment to FMWR’s Youth Sports program, Jan. 27, which supports military families.

nine-time Pro Bowler John Lynch.

“The military child sacrifices a lot when their moms and dads are gone protecting our freedom, and anything we can do to help them just be kids and enjoy life is a good thing,” Lynch said.

And with their donation, the FMWR expects to improve the lives of military children for many years to come.

“The NFL and the Pro Bowl have always been big supporters of us here in Hawaii,” Amarosa said. “We completely appreciate the NFL and their donation to our programs that directly supports our military families.”